TOWN OF HINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT



FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2009

On the Cover: South Shore Country Club

(Photo by Art Cicconi)

The South Shore Country Club, a former farm, began operation in 1922 as a nine-hole course, designed by Wayne Stiles, a noted golf course architect, expanding to eighteen holes in 1925. The Club continued to be operated as a private golf club until it was purchased by a realty trust for development in January 1986. Plans by the new owners to build housing on the property prompted the Town to appoint a Study Committee to explore alternatives regarding the space and to present their findings to Town Meeting in 1986.

In April 1986, after long and sometimes heated discussions, the Town Meeting attendees voted by secret ballot, 1,216 to 327, to approve \$7 million for "taking by eminent domain" the Country Club parcel of land. At a Special Town Meeting in February 1988, by a six to one margin, 1,538 voters added another \$1.25 million to the price for the purchase and development of the property. It was further voted to accept State Aid for the project to ensure the preservation of Open Space.

The South Shore Country Club, managed by the newly appointed Country Club Management Committee, opened to the public in July 1988 and reported a first year profit of \$87,297.

Today, in addition to golf, the Club offers tennis courts, a bowling alley, a swimming pool and several dining and function rooms.



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For the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2009

Prepared by:

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TOWN OF HINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

JUNE 30, 2009

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introductory Section	1
Letter of Transmittal	3
Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting	8
Organization Chart	9
Elected Officials	10
Administrative Staff	11
Financial Section	13
Independent Auditors' Report	15
Management's Discussion and Analysis	18
Basic Financial Statements	29
Statement of Net Assets	31
Statement of Activities	32
Governmental Funds – Balance Sheet	34
Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet Total Fund Balances to the Statement of Net	
Assets	35
Governmental Funds – Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances	36
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances of Government	tal
Funds to the Statement of Activities	37
Proprietary Funds – Statement of Net Assets	38
Proprietary Funds – Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Assets	
Proprietary Funds – Statement of Cash Flows	40
Fiduciary Funds – Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets	41
Fiduciary Funds – Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Assets	42
Notes to Basic Financial Statements	43
Required Supplementary Information	76
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – General Fund – Budget and Actual .	78
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Sewer Fund – Budget and Actual	81
Other Post-Employment Benefit Plan Funding Progress and Employer Contributions	83
Other Post-Employment Benefit Plan Actuarial Methods and Assumptions	84

Notes to Required Supplementary Information	85
Combining Statements	87
Nonnmajor Funds	88
Fiduciary Funds	98
Statistical Section	101
Net Assets by Components	102
Changes in Net Assets	103
Fund Balances, Governmental Funds	104
Changes in Fund balances, Governmental Funds	105
General Fund Revenue by Source	106
General Fund Expenditures by Function	107
General Fund Tax Revenue by Source	108
General Fund Balance Compared to Annual Expenditures	109
Real Estate tax Levies and Collections	110
Assessed and Estimated Equal Value of Taxable Property	111
Assessed Value of Taxable Property by Classification	112
Property Tax Rates	113
Principal Taxpayers	114
Ratios of Outstanding Debt and General Bonded Debt	115
Computation of Legal Debt Margin	116
Computation of Overlapping Debt	117
Ratio of Annual Debt Service for general Bonded Debt to Total General Fund Expenditures	118
Demographic Statistics	119
Population Changes	120
School Enrollment Statistics	121
Median Age, Median Family Income, and Per Capita Income	122
Unemployment Rates	123
Building Permits and Construction Activity	124
Principal Employers	125
Number of Employees by Function of Government	126